[p. 3]

CHAPTER I

According to traditions preserved by the local people, the Iangtiah clan were the first settlers in Mawphlang. The Lyngkhin were invited to come and settle on the Iangtiahs enacted priests to perform proper worship for their village. Other clans came later and settled in the State. These old clans are known as Khadar Kur. Mystris are elected from the following four clans—Iangtiah, Khar Shiling, Khar Shisei and Khar Syiem. The above traditions of the origin of the settlement were furnished by the mystri U Subu Bai, his cousin's husband U Aliman and others. The list of Khadar Kur furnished by the mystri is noted below :—

(1) Iangtiah.	(2) Lyngkhi.	(3) Khar Shiling.
(4) Khar Hessi	(5) Khar Syiem.	(6) Khar Phoosaw.
(7) Khar Kynsie.	(8) Khar Sohkhar.	(9) Morbesiang.
(10) Khar Nartiang.	(11) Khar Mawphlang.	(12) Khar Syntiew.

The genealogy of mystri U Subu Bai, of mystri U Onong Singh and others are shown at the end of this chapter. In collecting kinship terms, three questions were asked of the informant :

(i). What is the relationship of B to the informant A (and of A to B). This is shown in the tables as the kinship term.

(ii). What the informant A called B (and conversely). This is shown in the tables as the term of address.

(iii). How the informant A referred to the relationship of B to C, another relative. This is shown as the term of reference.

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CHAPTER IV

Result of the survey

4.1 **Distribution of samples.**—It has already been mentioned in Chapter I that purposive selection of ten villages from border area, eight villages from the hinterland area and a random selection of ten villages from the general area, were made for intensive investigation.

It is not our intention to discuss in this Chapter on the specific levels of individual villages. Some common salient features of the villages relating to the situation of the villages, diseases occurring there and marketing, communication, educational and medical facilities obtainable in those villages are briefly described below for the purpose of giving intelligence into the conditions of the sample villages.

The following table shows the group-wise distribution of the sample villages, their location by thana and subdivision and the number of families inhabiting each village at the time of the survey.

TABLE B-I

Sample villages in United K. & J. Hills and their location

Group	Name of village	Thana	Subdivision	No. of families
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Border area—	1. [illegible]	Jowai	Jowai	68
	2. Amlai	Khonjai	Do	18
	3. Syndai	Do	Do	135
	4. Dawang	Do	Do	104
	5. Lumshor	Do	Do	28
	6. Nongpi	Chiang	Shillong	210
	7. Shadawpai	Do	Do	66
	8. Mawlai	Do	Do	196
	9. Mawdon	Do	Do	82
	10. Rajai	Do	Do	65

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CHAPTER V

Population and Occupation

The following table shows the number of families and population of the sample villages in the different village groups.

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TABLE C-1

	Border area	Project area	General area
1	2	3	4
No. of villages ..	19	8	10
No. of families ..	1,096	647	184
No. of persons	5,674	2,963	902
Average no. of families per village	58	81	18
Average no. of persons per village	301·4	370·4	90·2
Average no. of persons per family	5·6	4·6	4·9

The population in the first two groups of villages is much more than in the third group because important villages were intentionally selected from border and project areas. The figures may not truely reflect the difference in the average size of villages in these areas.

The population in the selected villages were compared with the 1951 census figures. But it was found that the two sets of figures are not strictly comparable due to changes in the names and boundaries of the villages and emigrations. A note on this study is included in the appendix.

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5.2: The following table shows the classification of population by age and sex in the three areas:—

Age and Sex Composition of Population

Age Group	Border area			Project area			General area		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1. Below 5 yrs.	293	328	621 (16·90)	290	294	584 (20·87)	77	87	164 (18·18)
2. 5 to below 15 yrs.	435	450	885 (24·09)	260	373	633 (22·49)	117	122	239 (26·50)
3. 15 to below 65 yrs.	1025	1077	2102 (57·21)	722	862	1584 (56·47)	288	286	494 (54·76)
4. 65 yrs. & above	26	40	66 (1·80)	18	20	34 (1·15)	3	2	5 (0·56)
Total	1779	1904	3674 (100·00)	1417	1548	2965 (100·00)	485	457	902 (100·00)
No. of females per 1,000 males	..	1076	..	..	..	1092	..	..	940

It is seen that the population under 15 years of age in the border area, project area and general area were respectively 41 per cent, 45 per cent and 45 per cent of the total population in these areas, while that under age group 'between 15 to 65 years', constituted respectively 57 per cent, 53 per cents 55 per cent of the population in the three areas.

It is evident that population of females was as a whole greater than that of male in border area and project area and less in general area. The number of females per 1,000 males in border area, project area and general area were respectively 1,076, 1,092 and 940 against the 1951 census figure of 983 females per 1,000 males in the rural areas of the district of United K-J. Hills.

5.3: The following table shows the classification of population by religion.

TABLE C-3

Classification of Population by Religion

Area	Tribal religion	Christianity	Hinduism	Other religion	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Border area	1766 (48·07)	1410 (38·38)	483 (13·15)	15 (0.41)	3674 (100·00)
2. Project area	811 (27·35)	2013 (67.89)	141 (4.76)	0.00	2965 (100·00)
3. General area	310 (34·26)	571 (63·30)	22 (2·44)	0.00	903 (100·00)

Population following Hinduism and other religion in the border area comprises mostly of displaced persons from East Pakistan following trade and business as their means of livelihood, while those in the general and project areas are mainly the Nepalies who are generally engaged in cattle rearing and agriculture.

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*162 871 135 In border area and project area the percentage of literates is worked out at 24 and 31 respectively –a comparatively high figure for a rural area. This, however, cannot be regarded as a true index of literacy in the rural area of the district for the fact that villages from border area and project area were purposively selected almost all of which by virtue of their bigness in size and location in vantage points, happened to possess at least one school for quite a long time. The average picture for the district as a whole is brought out by the percentage of literates in the general area which is only 17. A comparison of this figure with that of 1951 census for the rural areas of the district which is only 12 per cent shows that during the last eight years there has been an increase in the percentage of literates.

As will be seen from table above the proportion of literates among males is higher than that among females throughout the district.

Economic Status

*162 434 5.5: The following table shows the number of persons in the sample villages by sex and economic status.

From the above table it is seen that the proportion of earners in the Border area, Project area and General area are respectively 50 per cent, 48 per cent and 55 per cent of the corresponding total population. Thus each earner has to support himself and roughly one dependent. Thus the burden of dependency is not very heavy in the district. This is because of the fact that men, women and adolescents all join the labour force. Number of women engaged wholly on domestic works is few. Only in big families having a number of women, one or two of them are engaged in domestic works, otherwise the Khasi women attend to the domestic works in addition to their work in the field.

From table C 5·1 in the appendix it will be seen that respectively 4·7 per cent, 7.8 per cent and 10.2 per cent of the earners in Border area, Project area and General area are below 15 years of age.

5·6—Attempt was made to study the employment position in the selected villages. For this purpose the following definition of employed and unemployed persons was adopted.

Persons working for pay or profit on one day during a period of 30 days preceding the date of enquiry would be classified as employed. Those who did not work on any day during the last 30 days, may be employed or unemployed. The person is unemployed if—

(i) He who was without a job for the whole reference period.

(ii) Who was seeking one, and

(iii) Who was in a position to accept job if offered one.

A person is also unemployed if he did not work because of his protracted illness, believed that no work was available, or was expecting to return to a job from which he had been indefinitely laid off.

On the other hand a person is employed if he had a job, although temporarily absent from work during the reference period due to illness, vacation, industrial disputes or being laid off temporarily. Also a person would be considered employed if he was waiting to take up a new job which he had been offered or to start a new business.

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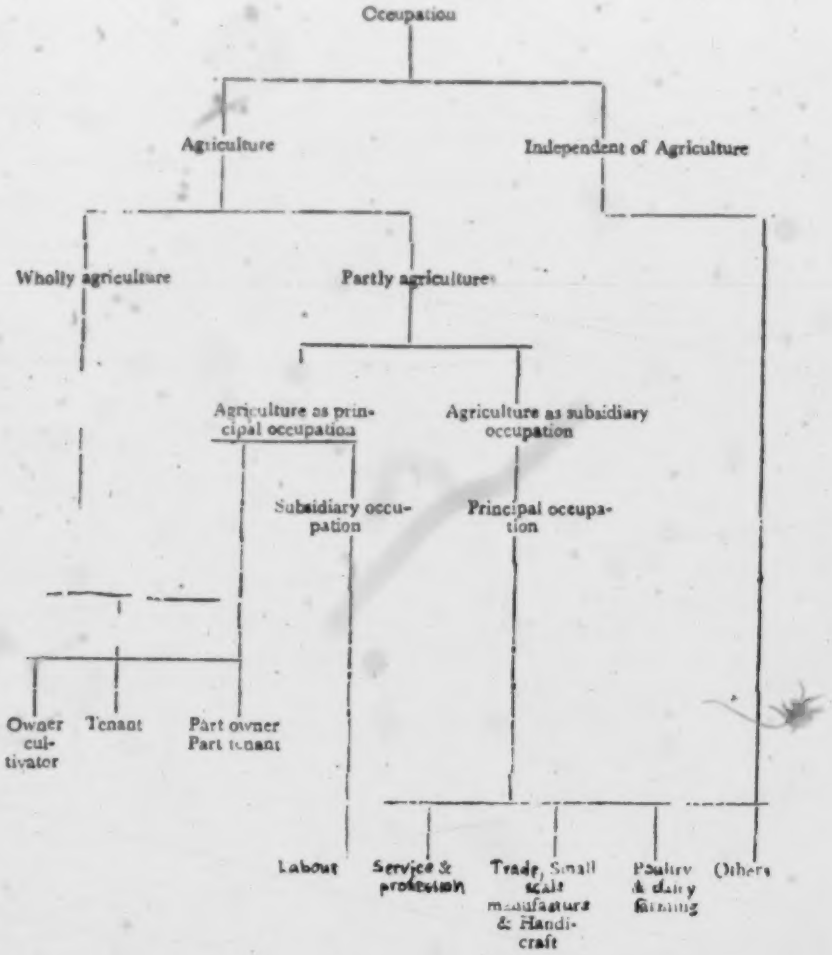
by employees who comprise over 22 per cent, 13 per cent and 9 per cent respectively. It may be noted that the large number of families who engaged agricultural labourers on daily basis as and when necessary were not classed as 'employers'.

Occupation

3.8: In the following tables attempt has been made to depict the occupational distribution of the population.

As agriculture is the principal occupation of the majority of the villagers the following schemes of classification of occupation has been adopted—



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Families have been classified into three main classes, *viz.* :-

(1) Wholly agricultural

(2) Partly agricultural

(a) Agriculture as principal occupation

(b) Agriculture as subsidiary occupation.

(3) Independent of Agriculture.

5.9: The following table shows the distribution of families by occupational type in the three village groups :—

TABLE C·8

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Occupational distribution of families in different village groups

Occupational type	Border area	P. C. to total no. of families (house hold)	Project area	P. C. to total no. of families	General area	P.C. to total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Wholly agricultural	511	50·80	394	60·90	128	69·57
2. Partly agricultural—						
(a) agriculture as principal occupation.	168	16·70	95	14·68	37	20·11
(b) agriculture as subsidiary occupation.	183	18·19	108	16·69	17	9·24
3. Independent of agriculture.	144	14·31	50	7·73	2	1·08
	1006	100·00	647	100·00	184	100·00

• 125 463

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(b) agriculture as subsidiary occupation.	183	18·19	108	16·69	17	9·24
3. Independent of agriculture.	144	14·31	50	7·73	2	1·08
	1006	100·00	647	100·00	184	100·00

It will be seen that wholly agricultural families, in Border area, Project area and General area are 51, 61 and 70 p. c. respectively of the total families. Classifying the wholly agricultural families and families pursuing agriculture as principal occupation, as predominantly agricultural families—the proportion of such families for Border area, Project area and General area stand at 68 p. c. 76 p.c. and 90 p.c. respectively. Thus it is clear that in the Border area the proportion of predominantly agricultural families is the lowest. The reason for this can be safely ascribed to the set-back received due to closure of markets after partition. A close study of tables C·10 and C.11 below and table C.11.1 at the appendix will bear testimony to the fact that in Border area there is evidence of a shift of occupation from agriculture to non-agricultural enterprise especially labour (non-agricultural).

Predominantly agricultural families have been classified into five groups— Non-cultivating owner, owner cultivator, tenants, part-owner and part-tenants and landless agricultural labourers. The number of families and the proportion of each of these groups in the three areas are as follows—

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Apart from private lands, Raj lands possessed by a family and land possessed throug settlement by District Council have been considered as 'land owned' for the purpose of this survey. Tenants usually take in rent from land-owners only those lands which are possessed by the later as private land or through settlement through District Council. A perusal of tale C 9 given above will show that proportion of tenants are highr in Jowai subdivision which is due to the existence in this subdivisin of some big landholders who are known as zamindars. Majority of the families shown against 'non-cultivating owner' are in fact agricultural labor families who also possess some land but due to some reason or other left it uncultivated. Among owner cultivators, tenants and part-owner ad part-tenant families also there are some whose major income is derivedfrom agricultural labour. Consideration of these two facts along with the number of landless agricultural families goes to show that the proporion of agricultural labourers in the district is rather high.

TABLE C1·0

Occupational distribution of families whose principal occupation is other than agriculture

principal occupation	No. of families: Border area Total	Border area P.C. to total	Project area Total	Project area P.C. to total	General area Total	General area P.C. to total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Non-agricultural labour.	188	57·49	70	44·30	6	31·58
2. Service, professior, etc.	34	10·40	39	24·68	3	15·79
3. Trader.	65	19·88	21	13·29	4	21,05
4. Small scale manufacture & handicraft.	23	7·03	19	12·03	1	2·56
5. Poultry & dairy farming.	7	2·14	..	..	5	26·32
6. Others	10	3·06	9	5·70	...	...
Total ..	327	100·00	158	100·00	19	100·00

511 It is seen that the per family average annual expenditure is Rs.909·00 nP. in Border areas, Rs.1008·00 nP. in Project area and Rs.828·00 nP. in General area. The per family annual net income in the respective area being Rs.852·86 nP., Rs.988·84 nP., and Rs.949·51 nP. it follows that the budget of the average family is deficit in all the areas. [406] This deficit is usually made up either by restricting the consumption expenditure during the lean months of the agricultural year or by taking loans.

221 511 The field work of the survey was started during the month of February, *i.e.*, hardly after two months, of harvesting of winter paddy and during the harvesting period of cash crops like orange, betelnut, potatoes, etc. During this period people get money through the sale proceeds and naturally they [114] were tempted to spend comparatively higher amount on food. In fact, it was made clear during investigation that as lean months are approaching when people did not have money to purchase food articles, they used to lead a very austere life. This period is particularly very hard for the Border people because unlike people of other two areas they do not have [128] even paddy in store. As the above figures of annual expenditure of a family were calculated on the basis of information collected for one month [125] preceeding the date of investigation, in respect of food and non-food articles, and for one year in respect of miscellaneous items, there is every likelihood of the average per family expenditure on food and non-food articles being over-estimated.

128 511 As in the case of income, consumption of articles produced at home or at farm as well as those received out of the goods, services and gift and loan were valued in money terms on the basis of the local average retail prices in respect of the commodities concerned. Thus even firewood and other wild vegetables and fishes obtained by fishing were valued in terms of money. Of the total average expenditure on food, the food articles obtained in kind and consumed at home account for about 18 per cent in Border area, 53 per cent in Project area and 57 per cent in General area. Thus the share of food articles obtained in kind and consumed at home to the annual expenditure of a family is very low in Border area. This is natural because they depend almost exclusively on cash crop cultivation.

511 Out of the total expenditure, food account for about 68 per cent in Border area, 67 per cent in Project area and 73 per cent in General area. In all the areas cereals alone took the bulk of the expenditure on food, *i.e.*, 66 per cent, 75 per cent and 81 per cent in the respective areas

It is seen that expenditure on pulses, vegetables and milk are very low. In fact only a few of the Tribal villagers take pulses, milk and vegetables. Rice and fish or meat are the only items of the dishes of most of the villages.

Among non-food articles fuel and light accounted for 6 per cent in Border area, 5 per cent in Project area, and 5 per cent in General area. Khasis are heavy chewers of betelnut and this accounted for 5 per cent of total annual expenditure in border area, 4 per cent in Project area and about 3 per cent in General area while tobacco and tea in tea-stall accounted for about 5 per cent, 4 per cent and 4 per cent respectively of the total annual expenditure in the three areas. Expenditure on liquor

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CHAPTER—X

Summary of main findings

125 10.1. Twenty-eight villages were selected for the purpose of the survey. Out of the 28 villages selected, 10 from Border area and 8 from Project area were selected purposively while the remaining 10 were selected at random from the entire district which is referred hereafter as general area.

166 Migration from big villages was rare but some migration was reported in respect of small villages.

164 743 871 489 482 Occurrence of Malaria, influenza and dysentery is a regular phenomenon in the area. Medical facilities were not found satisfactory and as much as 78 per cent of the villages have no dispensary within a radius of five miles. In regard to education, the facilities cannot also be said to be unsatisfactory for more than 60 per cent of the villages have a Lower Primary School. Transport facilities were not satisfactory and as much as 86 per cent of the villages still depend upon primitive mode of transport, namely head load. Correlated with outmoded form of transport, is the prevalence of unduly high cost of transport.

162 161 10.2. The number of the families covered by the survey was 1006 in the Border area, and 647 in the Project area and 184 in the General area. The average size of a village in the respective area is 100·6, 80·9 and 18·4 families. In the Border and Project areas females out number males being respectively 1076 and 1092 females per 1,000 males as against 940 females per 1,000 males in the general area 212 Literacy is as high as 34 per cent in the border area and 31 per cen [563] in the Project area but as low as 17 per cent in the general area In all the areas literacy among females is very low.

162 464 The working population (earners and earning dependents) is as high as 55 per cent in the Border area, 54 per cent in the Project area and 63 per cent in the general area. While there were no cases of unemployment in the Project and General areas, 53 persons were reported unemployed from border area.

241 162 463 10.3. 51 per cent of the families in Border area are wholly agricultural, 35 per cent partly agricultural and 14 per cent independent o agriculture. The corresponding figures for the Project area are 61, 31 and 8 per cent respectively while for the General area they are 70 per cent, 29 per cent, 1 per cent respectively.

Predominantly agricultural families constitute 67, 76 and 90 per cent of the families in Border, Project and General areas respectively.

162 423 10.4. 31 per cent of the families in Border area, 29 per cent in Project area and 10 per cent in General area were absolutely without any land while 25 per cent, 39 per cent and 24 per cent of the families in the respective areas possessed small holding ranging from 0·24 to 2·30 acres representing 11,24 and 26 per cent of the total holding area in the respective areas. 36 per cent of the families in Border and Project areas and 41 in General area possessed medium sized holding (3 to less than 10 acres)

Name of village	No. of persons according to 1951 Census	No. of persons according to survey	Variation	No. of families according to listing schedule	
General Area—					
19. Mawlaiteng	113	86	−27	20	Average size of village 18·4
20. Jympiat	87	49	−38	7	
21. Asola	29	22	− 7	5	.. ..
22. Domrya	76	16	40	20	
23. Lamyrsiang	119	97	−22	23	Average family size 4·9
24. Iapmala	126	161	35	24	
25. Mawkynshian	163	159	− 4	40	
26. Jowe	48	31	−17	7	
27. Byrheh	114	106	−8	20	
28. Mawkhi	49	76	27	16	
Total ..	924	902	−20	184	.. ..

N. B.—1951 census population figures are not shown against Border Area and Project Area villages. This is because of the fact that in some cases in the Census report, the different blocks of a village have been enumerated as different villages, *e.g.*, the village **Sohkha** has been enumerated in 1951 census as three villages, *viz.*, **Sohkha Phlang, Sohkha mission,** etc., while in some other cases, only one population figure has been recorded against a number of villages of which possibly one is the main village, others being its satellites and as these villages were selected without any reference to the Census Handbook, there is every likelihood of our selected villages not coinciding with Census villages. So far as migration is concerned it is very rare in big villages, particularly when they have some settled occupation but it was found through investigation that in some of the border villages due to continued adversities in their agricultural and other occupation people had to move away in search of work. Migration of some traders was reported from **Bholaganj** and **Lyngkhat**. Some Khasi families were reported to have migrated to Pakistan where they had got agricultural land. Heaviest emigration of this type was however, reported from **Sohkha**, a village selected from **Saipung-Darrang, M. P. C. D. Block,** but located near the Indo-Pak Border, where about **one third** of its total population was said to have migrated to **Pakistan**. Some families from **Mawdon** are said to have migrated to a nearby village due to unhealthy condition of the village. A study of population variation in General area villages given above, will show that there is **a net decrease of 20 persons** in the sample villages from **total number of persons recorded** in 1951 Census. This is accounted for by migration of people which is considerable in smaller villages particularly those depending on **shifting** cultivation. A few families from **Mawlaiteng** are said to have migrated to **Mawlum** a village only a few furlong away from Mawlaiteng. Migration was also reported from **Lamyrsiang, Domrya, Asola,** and **Jowe** from **Byrhoh** and **Mawkynshian** a few families were said to have left the village a few days ahead of the date of investigation for their cultivation at some distant place.